



Title: The Manifestation of the King (part 8) – The Lord Jesus’ Compassion and Commandment to Pray for Laborers.

Text: Matt. 9:35-38

35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

Introduction:

1. The Lord Jesus had compassion on the multitude.
2. The Lord Jesus instructs His disciples to pray that God would send forth laborers into His harvest.

I. The Lord’s Compassion (vv.35-36) [9:35 nearly matches 4:23]

- A. The places that Christ ministered to: cities and villages.
- B. The public places of worship: in their synagogues.
- C. The Lord noticed them fainting and scattered abroad (NOT His disciples BUT those who are not saved). The Greek grammar tells us that they were continually experiencing these deplorable conditions (here is one of those rare pluperfect tense example).
- D. The fainting & scattered sheep picture is based upon the O.T. (Ps. 78:52; 119:176; Jer. 50:6; and the mission of Christ as Shepherd – Isa. 53:6; Ezek. 34:16).

II. The Lord’s Commandment to Pray (vv.37-38)

- A. The harvest is plenteous (not His disciples BUT those who are not saved).
- B. The laborers are few – there is a want for pastors, missionaries, teachers, etc.
- C. The harvest is the Lord’s harvest.
- D. God sends “laborers” – laborers pray for laborers.

Conclusion:

1. The Lord has His disciples engaged in prayer before He sends them out (in Matt. 10).
2. Disciples are to be engaged in serious times of prayer.
3. Disciples are expected to be laborers.
4. Disciples are to make disciples. (We must multiply ourselves and train others).